

AFRL recognizes corporate award winners

by Erin Caylor, AFRL Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Air Force Research Laboratory recognized its top performers at the fourth annual AFRL corporate awards luncheon July 31, at the Nutter Center, Fairborn.

This year's winners were selected from 123 candidates for 11 award categories within the AFRL directorates. Finalists and winners were chosen by the AFRL corporate award selection board and approved by Maj. Gen. Paul Nielsen, AFRL commander.

Both team and individual awards were presented during the ceremony.

- Barbara Lupo, Munitions Directorate, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., earned the award for administrative excellence for her expertise in records management. Lupo was chosen to serve as an inspector of the directorate's in-house files and found and corrected more than 300 discrepancies in a one-month period.

- Donna Lindner, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, garnered the senior administrative excellence award for her accomplishments as the office security manager. Lindner regularly reviewed the branch, section, division, and contractor offices and currently holds the International Merchant Purchase Authorization credit card for five separate accounts totaling more than \$200,000.

- The mission support team award was presented to the 15 members of the munitions contracting division team, Munitions Directorate, for their completion of six critical source selections for fuzing, penetrating, and seeker advancement.

- Ernest Meyer, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., earned the individual mission support award for his contribution as the overseer for the job order cost accounting system for more than 65 government employees and was recruited to train other base organizations in the Automated Business Service System.

- Maj. Timothy Klopfer, Air Vehicles Directorate, was credited with the leadership award for his outstanding guidance to the 11-person contracting division. He developed a database to automatically track actions and red-flag late milestones.

- Parker Buckley, Propulsion Directorate, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, took the senior leadership award for his key role in the development of the hypersonic pillar of the National Aerospace Initiative. Buckley also led the development of the first free jet demonstration of the hydrocarbon-fueled scramjet engine.

- The signature exploitation team, Space Vehicles Directorate at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., earned the scientific/technical achievement team award for the first performance of the airborne measurements, and the proposed and patented hypertemperol imaging as a detection technique.

- Alan Lindsey, Information Directorate at Rome Air Force Base, N.Y., earned the scientific/technical achievement individual award for significant advances in time-frequency waveform design framework and digital implementation techniques.

- Capt. Jess Drab, Munitions Directorate, was presented the scientific and technical management award for his personal involvement in the technology demonstration of the massive ordinance air blast. Drab led the conceptual design, engineering analysis and development, fabrication of test items, and plans for the airdrop testing of the weapon prototypes.

- The commander's cup team award went to the laser eye protection team, Human Effectiveness Directorate at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, and the XSS-10 team, Space Vehicles at Kirtland Air Force Base.

- Mark Gruber, Propulsion Directorate, and Jeff Hughes, Sensors Directorate, both at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, took the commander's cup individual award. Gruber, an aerospace engineer, is recognized for his leadership skills while directing the upgrade to AFRL's scramjet combustion test cell, Cell 22. Stone, a technical adviser, is credited for developing first capability to protect high-value Department of Defense scientific and engineering software applications from foreign exploitation.

"It was not an easy task to select a winner in each category," Nielsen said. "The competition was tough,

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and you should all be very proud of your achievements and contributions to AFRL. The nominees are an impressive group of individuals and only go to show the caliber of people we have in AFRL. I am honored to lead such an impressive and talented team as we redefine air power for the 21st century.” @